

**From:** Halim Chtourou  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/7/01 3:44pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft case comments

To Whom It May Concern,

I am deeply concerned by the terms of the U.S. Department of Justice's settlement with Microsoft in this case. I believe that the proposed settlement, and most likely any proposed settlement, is not being tough enough on Microsoft. The settlement contains many loopholes that will allow Microsoft to continue to their illegal and anti-competitive behavior which would only result in more permanent harm to the computer industry and future lawsuits costing even more tax payer money.

Although it may be difficult to plan and initially execute, the plan to breakup Microsoft has been the ONLY viable solution I have seen to this case. The breakup of Microsoft is truly the only way to correct the terrible crimes that Microsoft has committed against nearly anyone in the world that has used and worked with a computer.

Microsoft can be broken up without major impact to businesses and the economy. The first divisions to be separated should be relatively unrelated entities such as Microsoft's operating system and application software division, MSN, and Microsoft's X-Box division. These three divisions should be separate companies that are not allowed to use their influence to help each other, as Microsoft is currently using it's Windows monopoly power to help them gain users of MSN and their X-Box. Look at MSN for example. What other major national internet service provider ONLY functions with Windows-based computers? I don't believe there are any others. How does the proposed settlement prevent Microsoft from doing things like this? I don't believe that it does.

After separating these core divisions, Microsoft's operating system and application software units can be separated into two or more separate companies. Without the monopoly of Windows to leverage, Microsoft Office may actually face competition in the marketplace and be forced to strive towards innovation -- something Microsoft claims to be fighting for, but very rarely actually does.

I urge you, please consider not only what this settlement will mean for the future of Microsoft and their monopoly, but also look at what they have done in the past, how they have continuously flaunted their power in the face of government attempts of restriction, and how they have greatly harmed competition and innovation in the computer industry.

Thank you for your time,

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